PROFESSOR EZRA ROSSER
Speaks about the 1835 Removal Treaty provision for a Cherokee Delegate to Congress

SETHER GRAVES
Living History Performer

JASON BURWELL
Chickasaw Singer will bring tribal songs, hymns, and dance

CONFERENCE SECTIONS
★ Tentative Schedule
★ Registration Form
★ Online Registration Info

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After Conference Events........15
Greetings from Trail of Tears Association National Headquarters on the banks of the Arkansas River in the South of the Cherokee Nation, Paducah, KY on the banks of the Ohio River was chosen for this year’s conference as we continue to emphasize the routes of the detachments who removed along river routes. Last year we met on the banks of the Tennessee in Decatur, AL.

The Illinois Chapter and the Kentucky Chapter have joined forces to host this year’s conference in the old Chickasaw homelands of western Kentucky. Because we’ll be in lands of the old Chickasaw domain it provides opportunity for us to focus on Chickasaw history and culture. Jason Barwell from the Chickasaw Language and Revitalization and Preservation Department bridges the gap to the Chickasaw past with language, tribal songs, and Choctaw hymns. He will begin his performance on Sunday mounting with hymns in the language of the Choctaw and latter engage attendees in his tribal songs.

The conference will open with a presentation about the very timely topic of a Cherokee delegate to Congress. This provision of the removal treaty, the 1835 Treaty of New Echota, will be discussed by Professor Ezra Rosser of American University, in Washington D.C. who authored “The Nature of Representation: The Cherokee Right to a Congressional Delegate”.

In as much as Paducah is recognized as the international quilt capitol, Heather Carey of the Illinois Chapter and the Shawnee National Forrest has organized the assembly of a quilt by the Trail of Tears Community which will be ongoing throughout the conference. The project will be carried out against the backdrop of an exhibit of heirloom Cherokee quilts and contemporary textile wall hangings.

As has been the case for the last 23 years this 24th Annual Trail of Tears Conference and Symposium will be a great gathering of unique and lovable characters for two and a half days of visiting, networking, cultural exchange and carrying on what has become a grand tradition, anticipated from one year until the next.

Ya’ll Come On!!
Troy Wayne Poteete

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35TH ANNIVERSARY OF REMEMBER THE REMOVAL RIDE COMMEMORATED

Written By: Will Chavez

TALEQUAH – This year marked the 35th anniversary of the Remember the Removal ride that first took place in 1984 with 20 cyclists from throughout northeastern Oklahoma. That ride was commemorated by Cherokee leaders during this year’s send off ceremony on May 28 in Tahlequah for the 12th RTR bicycle ride that retraces the Northern Route of the Trail of Tears. Alumni from that first ride were invited to attend the send off ceremony and the 11 who attended were recognized during the ceremony.

Tress Yahola Lewis said when she attended school in Vian, in her history book, there was one single paragraph about the Trail of Tears, and she wanted to find out more about what really happened to her people.

“Why were there no Trail of Tears markers? Maybe we could change that fact,” said Lewis who spoke at the May 28 send off ceremony.

With a small amount of funding, the 20 cyclists set out from Cherokee, North Carolina, in early June carrying their clothing, equipment, some food and water on their bikes and began riding west back to Oklahoma. After they survived traversing the Smoky Mountains of western North Carolina, they took on the mountains of eastern Tennessee and then rode into Kentucky, the southern tip of Illinois, and then entered Missouri. When the reached Jackson, Missouri, they began riding south and switched from the Northern Route to the Benge Route also used by Cherokee people to reach Indian...
The upcoming 2019 NTOTA Conference is going to offer a unique experience to get your creative juices flowing as we all come together to learn about and remember the Trail of Tears, and pay tribute to those who experienced it. Because the host city, Paducah, Kentucky, is recognized as a UNESCO Creative City and is home to the National Quilt Museum, we will be hosting an open door workshop in order to produce a community quilt. The goal of this workshop will be to create a quilt made by many different members of our Trail of Tears community working together to commemorate and support all that the Trail of Tears Association embodies. The final product will be a compilation of conference attendee’s thoughts, feelings, and ideas about the Trail of Tears expressed in fabric. The workshop will be open throughout the conference, and participation is voluntary. All supplies and materials will be provided. In addition to this workshop, we will have on display several Trail of Tears themed quilt/fabric art pieces and several vintage Cherokee heirloom quilts owned by Association members.

BE SURE TO CHECK OUT THE QUILTING ADVERTISEMENT ON PAGE 11.

COMMUNITY QUILT MADE BY SHAWNEE NATIONAL FOREST VOLUNTEERS, CREDIT: SHAWNEE NATIONAL FOREST

HEIRLOOM CHEROKEE FRIENDSHIP QUILT WITH NAMES IN CHEROKEE SYLLABARY FROM MARBLE CITY

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 7th-8th, 2019
Cherokee Fall Festival
10:00am - 5:00pm
Sequoyah Birthplace
Vonroe, TN

September 13th, 2019
TN Chapter Educational Symposium
6pm - Colloms Center (TN Wesleyan Univ.)
Athens, TN

September 14th, 2019
GA Chapter Meeting
10:30am - 4H Center, Drannert Building Room 350
Eatonton, GA

Muskogee Creek Nation Commemorative Walk
2pm-Blythe Ferry Cherokee Memorial Removal Park
Birchwood, TN

September 15th, 2019
Commemorative Trail of Tears Walk
12:30pm - United Methodist Church (High St)
Woodbury, TN

September 28th, 2019
OK Chapter Fall Meeting
10:00am - Will Rogers Memorial
Claremore, OK

October 3rd, 2019
WCU Prof. Andy Denson
2pm - Funk Heritage Center-Reinhardt College
Waleska, GA

October 5th, 2019
Red Clay State Park 40th Anniversary
10:00am - 2:00pm Red Clay State Park
Cleveland, TN

October 11th-13th, 2019
24th Annual Nat’l TOTA Conference & Symposium
Holiday Inn Riverfront/Paducah Convention Center
Paducah, KY

(UPCOMING EVENTS ARE CONTINUED ON PG 18)

*Special Conference Pull-Out Pages 9-12
Event Dates are Subject to change.
The Village of Caledonia, Missouri, held its Official Bicentennial Celebration and Scottish Festival on May 18, 2019, on the grounds of Caledonia Village Park and the Old Caledonian Bed and Breakfast, honoring its founding Scottish immigrant families with a parade and ceremony. Caledonia is set in the northern part of the Bellview Valley on Missouri Highways 21 and 32, where the Hildebrand Route traverses from Iron County. Caledonia was named after the old Latin word for Scotland. The Scottish themed parade had Scottish bagpipers and the Caledonia High School Band playing Scottish themed music.

Caledonia Mayor John Robinson served as the master of ceremonies for the event. Honorable Mark Sutherland, the first presenter, was born in Scotland and raised in England, and he serves as Her Majesty’s Honorary Consul of the United Kingdom for Missouri. Recently, Sutherland was appointed a Global Scot by the Right Honorable Nicola Sturgeon, the First Minister of Scotland. Sutherland has been recognized by both former Presidents George Bush and Barack Obama for his volunteer work. He honored each family who had been in Caledonia before it was named in 1819 with a certificate, including Mayor Robinson’s family.

Deloris Gray Wood, president of the Missouri Chapter of the Trail of Tears Association, gave a little history of the Cherokee Removal through the area, specifically about the Cannon Detachment that passed through the Village of Caledonia. She also presented to the Village a tee shirt that honored the 150th Anniversary of the Cherokee Removal, which was in 1988, when a retracement was done with teams, horses, and trail riders. Bill Ambrose, secretary of the Missouri Chapter of the Trail of Tears Association, also read a resolution from the Trail of Tears Association honoring the Scottish heritage of many Cherokee and the connection of the Scottish heritage to the village of Caledonia.

Marvin Cochran, said he found “a whole new family” by taking part in the ride. He said he also learned Cherokee people are tough people, and he thinks about the ride every day.

Cochran added that no matter how tough life gets for him, he remembers his ancestors endured more than he will ever go through, and he’s thankful for their sacrifices.

There was not another bicycle ride after the 1984 ride until 2009 when the Cherokee Nation Education Department brought back the ride to again develop leadership skills in Cherokee youth, to show them they are capable of much more than they realize and to teach them about the history of their people.

Wyatt Collins, a 2009 RTR participant, said the long, hot days of riding, sometimes for 10 hours, tested his endurance.

“I learned, that after this, I can do just about anything I put my mind to. Just looking at a mountain it seems impossible (to climb), but just little by little, pedal by pedal, you can make it,” he said. “I’ve learned a lot. It’s totally changed my perspective on the events that took place during the Trail of Tears.”

Former Principal Chief Chad Smith rode a bicycle most of the trip with the 2009 team.

He said visits to historic sites and important milestones along the northern Trail of Tears route were intended to share the history with the participants and give them a sense of the inner strength and leadership shown by past generations.

“Our ancestors were going to a barren land they knew nothing about, a place they could not imagine, see or feel or touch in their memory. But everyone of us knew we were coming home to people, our families, and it’s something our ancestors on the Trail of Tears never had,” Smith said after the ride. “Yet, in spite of all, our Cherokee people managed to not only complete their 1,000-mile exodus from their homelands, they survived, adapted, prospered and excelled in their new territory.”
Great Tellico History Day

The Tennessee Trail of Tears Association and the Charles Hall Museum of History & Heritage joined forces for a special “Great Tellico History Day” event in Tellico Plains on June 22.

The free event, a part of Monroe County’s Bicentennial celebrations, remembered the Cherokee from the Greater Tellico Plains areas in the 18th and early 19th centuries.

“We have so many folks to thank for making this day possible,” said Pam Hall Mathews, president of the Board of the Charles Hall Museum and one of the event coordinators. “It was a pleasure to co-host with the Tennessee Trail of Tears Association and for our joint committee to work with the Cherokee National Forest on coordinating the United Keetoowah Band ‘Youth Conservation Corps’ schedule with our event.”

Activities throughout the day at the Charles Hall Museum consisted of food trucks, water slides, potters and artists from the Cherokee Nation and Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indians, 18th century pioneer and Cherokee demonstrations setting up living history tables, blowgun demonstrations with the Red Clay park rangers, blacksmithing, corn grinding, heritage educational booths, Cherokee syllabary, corn husk doll classes, firing muskets and tomahawk throwing. The Charles Hall Museum displayed its collection of photographs and newspaper articles in regards to the 90th anniversary of the Tellico Plains Cherokee Indian Fair (in 1929 and 1930), along with many other artifacts.

“The demonstrators, presentations, ceremony were all suburb!” exclaimed Mathews.

The Tennessee Trail of Tears also held special presentations regarding the Cherokee history of the Great Tellico area at the United Methodist Church. Archaeologists Quentin Bass and Dr. Brett Riggs led the presentations.

(continued on page 17)
The Alabama Chapter of the Trail of Tears Association held its spring meeting on May 25th 2019 at the historic Davis Mill in Fort Payne, Alabama. Now an antique mall, the group was treated to lunch at the Mill, followed by a history of Manitou Cave by Annette Reynolds, owner of the cave. Following lunch, the group was led on a tour of the cave by Ms. Reynolds. The cave, located near the base of Lookout Mountain in Fort Payne, has received international publicity for its Cherokee graffiti written in Sequoyah’s syllabary. One of the inscriptions tells of a stickball game (anetsa) being held nearby.

In addition to ALTOTA members, guests included TOTA members from other chapters, two people from the Eastern Band in Cherokee, North Carolina, area residents, and Melissa Twaroski of the USDA Forest Service in Atlanta.

ALTOTA is indebted to Dr. Stephen Brewer and his wife Lynn for hosting the meeting and for providing lunch. The Brewers own Davis Mill and Cherokee, the home of Andrew Ross, in Fort Payne.

For more information about Manitou Cave visit: https://www.manitoucaveofal.org/

On March 30, the ARTOTA hosted its Spring Meeting in partnership with the Sequoyah National Research Center in Little Rock. Dr. Daniel Littlefield, SNRC Director and long-time member of ARTOTA, provided a program on the development of the center, resources and research available on the Trail of Tears, as well as an update on the new digital Trail of Tears program for the state of Arkansas. Dr. Littlefield challenged the ARTOTA to address “gaps” in research, preservation, and interpretation and encouraged the chapter to continue to pursue research for all Five Tribes.

The Choctaw Recognition Project by the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma is working to expand the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail to include the Choctaw Trail of Tears. The Choctaw Nation legal team and GIS representatives met with Carolyn Kent, ARTOTA Historic Preservation Officer, at the Sequoyah National Research Center in April for several days of research and collaboration on mapping.

On May 2nd, the ARTOTA met for a research meeting at the Shiloh Museum of Ozark History in Springdale to discuss Black’s Ferry and certification of Maynard as a Certified Site.

On May 4th and 5th, the NPS Trails Office hosted a workshop with ARTOTA at the Shiloh Museum on Interpretive Media related to Northwest Arkansas. A draft Old Wire Road itinerary and Fayetteville itinerary were developed with continued consultation over the summer. ARTOTA will provide the funds to print and maintain a Northwest Arkansas rack card for museums and visitor sites, paired with a website designed by the NPS Trails team. The workshop provided resources, training, steps, and organization to help the ARTOTA move forward with the Northwest Arkansas itinerary plan but also to replicate the plan across the state.

Arkansas Governor, Asa Hutchinson, issued a formal Proclamation declaring June 16-22 as Arkansas Trail of Tears Remembrance Week. On June 18th, ARTOTA President, Dr. Rosenbaum, greeted Remember the Removal Bike Riders at Pea Ridge National Military Park with a brief program on the importance of preservation and joint efforts to interpret Trail of Tears history to the public. PERI Superintendent, Kevin Eads, provided a history of the removal at the park and urged the necessity for continued research.
On June 18th, Benton County, Arkansas approved an eleven Historic Route sign plan along Old Wire Road, including important segments of Cross Hollow. The City of Rogers followed on July 17th with six signs and the City of Avoca on August 21st adding an additional two signs. We hope to have approval from the City of Springdale soon with two additional signs for a total of twenty-one signs in Benton County.

The water route of the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail is not clearly identified and goes unnoticed by the public. To address this gap, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Little Rock District in cooperation with the National Park Service, Arkansas State Parks and the City of North Little Rock are completing a project to bring awareness to the Trail of Tears Water Route in Arkansas. Through a Connect Trails To Parks (CTTP) grant for $10,500 and matching funds for $10,500 and labor from the U.S. CORP, the project will provide wayside exhibits at ten different public recreation areas and trail identification markers at additional locations with a cost well over $21,000. These panels will clearly identify the water route and provide interpretation and education to the public about the significance of the portion of the Trail of Tears used by four of the 17 Cherokee detachments and each of the Five Civilized Tribes had detachments that made use of the water route during the Indian Removal.

The ARTOTA Annual Membership Meeting and Public Program will be held at Village Creek State Park in Wynne on August 24, 2019. Listed on the National Register in 2003, Village Creek State park preserves one of the best segments of the Memphis to Little Rock Military Road built in the 1820s. ARTOTA Historic Preservation Officer, Carolyn Kent will discuss the history of removal for the Choctaw, Creek, Chickasaw, and Cherokee through Northeast Arkansas, and the Choctaw Nation and Chickasaw Nation representatives will provide programs on Trail of Tears research and GIS work across the state.

Arkansas Chapter, Trail of Tears Assoc.
Newsletter Submission
Fall 2019
By Bethany H. Rosenbaum, PhD

The Chieftains Museum-Rome, Georgia will be celebrating the 200th Anniversary of Major Ridge’s. The museum will be hosting a series of cultural activities this fall. On October 22nd the Chieftains Museum with support of the GA TOTA Chapter will sponsor an evening with Tommy Wildcat-noted Native American Flutist and Cherokee Treasurer. Please refer to the Chieftains’ website for details about the upcoming events.

The Funk Heritage Center-Waleska, Georgia on November 21st will be the dedication of the new Trail of Tears Exhibit at the Center which is located at Reinhardt University. This is also their 20th anniversary of the Center’s opening. These two major events will be celebrated with numerous activities at the Funk. The Funk’s Heritage Center website will give full details for these events.

The Georgia Chapter is honored to give financial support to both of these outstanding events.

**THE GA TOTA WILL HONOR LARRY ROSE SR. AND THE CHIEFTAINS MUSEUM AND FUNK HERITAGE CENTER CELEBRATING MAJOR ANNIVERSARIES THIS YEAR**

On Sunday, September 22nd at 3 pm the Walker County Historical Society and the GA TOTA will recognize Larry Rose Sr. and the Chief John Ross House Association for their dedicated stewardship of the Chief John Ross home. The event will take place at the Chief John Ross House, 200 East Lake Ave. Rossville, Georgia. An open invitation is extended to all members and friends of the Georgia Trail of Tears Association. The Georgia Trail of Tears Association cannot begin to express our gratitude to the Rose family for their 50 plus years involvement with the preservation of the John Ross House. We can only imagine how many tours they have personally conducted for school children, civic organizations and out-of-state visitors.

The historical significance of the Chief John Ross House is without question. It was the home of the most significant figure in Cherokee history. Chief Ross sold the home in 1827 and he became the Principal Chief in 1828. Under his leadership the Cherokee became a nation with its own constitution and government. For the next ten years, Chief Ross fought hard against Indian removal, but in 1838 he and other Cherokee were forced to move west to Indian Territory. He served as Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation from 1828 until his death in 1866.

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The Illinois Chapter has spent the summer months focused on conference planning and interpretation/outreach efforts. We have been working closely with the Kentucky Chapter since last winter to put together the upcoming 2019 NTOTA Conference in Paducah and are getting down to fine tuning the details. A key theme of the conference this year will be the water route used by three of the Cherokee detachments and several other removed tribes such as the Creeks. In conjunction with this theme we have designed and completed two wayside exhibits, one at Ft. Massac on the Ohio River, and one at Ft. Defiance at the confluence of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. Both exhibits will be unveiled as part of this year’s conference, as well as a third wayside at Hamburg Hill on the Shawnee National Forest. The Chapter also hosted the Remember the Removal Riders in June at Campground Church, for lunch and some much appreciated air conditioning. We always enjoy spending time with the riders, which include old friends and new, and hearing about the impact the ride has on them physically, mentally, and spiritually. As part of this we were successful this year in getting Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker to proclaim June 9-15, 2019 as Trail of Tears Remembrance Week. A final project for the summer was conducted with our partners at Southern Illinois University Carbondale. Using their specialized equipment, we were able to film portions of the Trail in 360 degrees with accompanying voiceover interpretation.

Russell ‘Rusty’ Weisman, was a speaker on “The Cherokee Trail of Tears in Southeast Missouri, The Hildebrand Detachment Route,” at the Ozark Regional Library’s Summer Speaker Series, Thursday, August 1, 2019, in Fredericktown. Rusty, vice president of the TOTA Missouri Chapter and senior preservationist and archaeologist at the Missouri Department of Transportation, gave his presentation to a full house.

A quick Missouri Chapter board meeting was held after Rusty’s presentation. Missouri chapter board members present were Deloris Gray Wood, president; Denise Dowling, treasurer; and Brick Autry, alternative board member.

Bryan Bethel, Department of Natural Resources (DNR) resource manager, along with Brick Autry, a DNR interpreter at the Battle at Pilot Knob and Elephant Rock State Historic Sites, presented “Missouri History and Fossils,” on Thursday, June 20, 2019, at the Speaker Series. Denise Dowling, superintendent of the (DNR) Trail of Tears State Park and Missouri Chapter board member, was at the presentation.

The Missouri Chapter board has been focusing the past two years on research that relates to the Northern Route of the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail from the Mississippi River to Pea Ridge, Arkansas.

The “Silas Brickey Schoolhouse and Spring Campsite” is a new certified site located about 2 miles northwest of Huzzah, Missouri, along the Northern Trail of Tears Route. The NPS entered into a certification partnership with property owner Steven N. Knight on June 18, 2019.

Missouri Chapter member Bill Ambrose (middle) shows property owners Steve and Beverly Knight how their property fits into the Trail of Tears narrative.

Deloris Wood, Bill Ambrose, and other TOTA Missouri Chapter members did considerable research to locate this property, recognize its significance, and to speak with the owner about the site’s Trail of Tears-related history. Based on the research by the Missouri members, which included notes jotted down in a diary written during the migration, and subsequent field work, Wood and Ambrose recognized that several Cherokee migrants spent considerable time at this property during 1838-1839, warranting its trail-related significance.

Interpretive Center Proposal Meeting Held in MO

A public meeting for a proposed Trail of Tears interpretive center was held in St. James, MO, on April 18, 2019, at the Nelson Hart Park. The St. James Chamber of Commerce and the City of St. James sponsored the meeting. Dr. Steve Belko, executive director of the Missouri Humanities Council, provided information on the project. Deloris Gray Wood from the TOTA Missouri Chapter and Mark Spangler from the Lebanon-Laclede Library and the Route 66 Museum also attended the meeting, along with others who work with them on researching the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail in Laclede and Webster Counties.
2019 TOTA Conference - TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Friday, October 11th

9:00am-12:30pm  - TOTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

12:00pm  - REGISTRATION OPENS at the Paducah Convention Center next door to hotel Door prize table near registration table will receive door prizes—Cleata Townsend in charge Vendor Tables can set up and open for business after 10 a.m. before the Conference kicks off at 2:00 p.m.

(LUNCH ON YOUR OWN)

~~2PM CONFERENCE OFFICIALLY OPENS~~

WELCOME

2:15pm  - Keynote Address: Professor Ezra Rosser, American University College of Law, Washington, D.C. “The Treaty of New Echota provision for a Cherokee Nation Delegate to Congress”

3:15pm  - Breakout sessions
  a) Dr. Ryan Campbell-Trail of Tears through Mark Twain National Forest in MO

5:30pm  - WAYSIDE EXHIBIT SIGN DEDICATION AT THE FOOT OF BROADWAY, on the Riverfront in DOWNTOWN Paducah

6:30pm – 8:30pm  - Phoenix Society Reception – Founder’s Room at River Discovery Center, on the Riverfront, Downtown Paducah, (walking distance from sign dedication site) Flute interlude: Chickasaw flautist Jason Burwell. Heavy hors d’oeuvres, cash bar.

CONFERENSE
SPECIAL
The River Discovery Center Museum will be open downstairs during the reception courtesy of the IL TOTA Chapter.
Saturday, October 12th

7:00am-8:45am—BUFFET BREAKFAST—hotel

8:45am—TOTA Membership Meeting, Chapter Reports, NPS Report—Cumberland Room Convention Center

10:00am -10:15am—The Trail of Tears at Paducah – KY Chapter Pres. Alice Ann Murphree

10:30am—IL Chapter has organized school buses for transportation to Ft. Massac for sign dedication leaving from hotel.

10:45am-11:15am—Car caravan may follow buses across the river to Ft. Massac State Park---1308 E 5th St, Metropolis, IL

11:30am—Wayside Exhibit Sign Dedication at Ft. Massac Visitor Center

12:00pm—Box Lunches at/near Visitor’s Center,

12:30pm-12:45pm—**Ft. Massac in Cherokee History**--Jack D. Baker

1:00pm—BUS & CAR CARAVAN BACK TO HOTEL/CONVENTION CENTER

1:30pm—Daniel Blake Smith, Writer and Filmmaker: *An American Betrayal: Cherokee Patriots and the Trail of Tears* Plenary Session – Cumberland Room, Convention Center

2:45pm—Dr. Brad Lieb, Director of Chickasaw Archaeology and Field Studies, Chickasaw Homeland Office Tupelo, MS – *Chickasaw Removal: A Proud People Choose Sovereignty*

Elizabeth Toombs-Cherokee Nation Tribal Historic Preservation Officer--**Section 106 Compliance**

4:00pm—Dr. Bill Ambrose— **First Notice that the Forced Removal Would Lead to a “Trail of Tears: A correlation of physician reports and Memorials to Congress**

Carly Blemmel, Jones Academy Behavioral Health, Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. **“The Choctaw Trail of Tears Running Team”**

5:15pm-5:45pm—Flute interlude: Chickasaw flautist Jason Burwell and Cherokee National Treasure Tommy Wildcat. on the Riverfront at back of hotel
Saturday, October 12th (continued)
5:30pm-DINNER ON RIVERFRONT on the hotel grounds

6:00pm-Seth Graves, Living History Performance, Eyewitness Account of Removal at Paducah

7:00pm-Chickasaw Storyteller Dixie Brewer

8:00pm to Midnight-In keeping with tradition: Learned discourse and heavy duty visiting sessions in hotel lobby

Sunday, October 28th

7:00am to 9:00am-BREAKFAST BUFFET at the hotel

9:30am to 10:30am-Jason Burwell, Chickasaw Cultural presentation with Choctaw Hymns (Plenary Session)

10:45am -11:45am

- Feather Smith-Trevino, Cherokee Nation Cultural Biologist: Cherokee Horticulture
- Robert Doherty-The 1816 Convention of Southern Tribes-at the Colbert House site

12:30pm-LUNCH: Grand door prize presentations

2:00pm-Cherokee Remember the Removal Bikeriders under direction of Legacy Rider Will Chavez

3:15—Closing Address---Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Chuck Hoskin, Jr.

(CONFERENCE OFFICIALLY ENDS. For info on after conference events see pg 15)
SPECIAL THANKS TO THIS YEAR’S PLANNING COMMITTEE

Alice Ann Murphree
Carla Hildebrand
Cheryl Cook
Sandy Boaz
Heather Carey

Bill Tanner
Phil Stucker
Lynda Peters-Jones
Jack D. Baker

THANK YOU TO OUR CONFERENCE SPONSORS

PHOENIX GIVING SOCIETY
Supporting the Trail of Tears Association

THANKS TO THIS YEAR’S PLANNING COMMITTEE

Trail of Tears National Historic Trail News • September 2019

Charter Members of the
Pheonix Giving Society

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<th>Land Routes ($1000-$4999)</th>
<th>Riley Bock - $2000</th>
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<tr>
<td>$325</td>
<td>Lawrence Simmons</td>
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<td>Lea Brit</td>
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| Removal ($100 - $499)     | David Breland     |
|                          | Brick Autry       |
|                          | Judy              |
|                          | Sizemore          |
|                          | Sandra Boaz       |
|                          | Sasha Bowles      |
|                          | Jason Irby        |
|                          | Melba Eads        |
|                          | Sheila Yehi       |
|                          | Joe Campbell      |
|                          | Sir Glenn         |
|                          | Jones             |
|                          | Jeffrey           |
|                          | Bibbee            |
|                          | Shannon           |
|                          | Keith             |
|                          | Susan Abram       |

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<td>Anita Finger-Smith - $625</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jack Baker - $600</td>
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| Treaties & Wars (up to $99) | Laura Spann |
|                            | Galen Gritts |
|                            | Michael Abram |
|                            | Laurie Brockman |
|                            | Steve Belko |
|                            | Rebekah Cessna |
|                            | Jim Ogden |
|                            | Denise Dowling |
|                            | Darlene Goins |
|                            | Will Chavez |
|                            | Mildred Taylor |
|                            | Ulrike Wiethaus |
|                            | Sandra Riley |
|                            | Paul Austin |
|                            | Nancy Feree |
|                            | Joy Montgomery |
|                            | Heather Carey |
|                            | Cleata Townsend |

Phoenix Giving Society amounts shown are cumulative.
## Contact Information

1. **Name** (as wanted on name badge):

2. **Organization Representing** (if applicable):

   **Mailing Address:**

   4. **City:**
   5. **State:**
   6. **Zip Code:**

   7. **Telephone:** ( ) —
   8. **Fax:** ( ) —

9. **Email:**

## Registration

10. **Regular Registration**

    - □ TOTA 2019 Member: $125
    - □ Non-member: $175*

    *Non-member registration includes TOTA membership through 2020.

11. **On-Site Registration**

    - □ TOTA 2018 Member: $225*
    - □ Non-member: $275*

    *Non-Member Registration includes TOTA membership through 2020.

12. □ Friday night Reception at Founders Room, River Discovery Center.

    □ Sat. Field Trip: Sign dedication and lunch at Fort Massac, IL.

    . I will need a ride for Fri. sign dedication and reception
    . I will need a ride for Sat. Field Trip

13. **Meals:**

    - Breakfast will be provided on Sat. and Sun. morning
    - Hors d’oeuvres will served at Friday reception
    - Lunch will be provided Sat. and Sun.
    - Dinner will be provided Sat. evening.

14. **Guest Meals**

    I need to register my guest, ________________________________, for the following meals:


    **Guest Meals TOTAL: $_____**

    Breakfast will be at Holiday Inn Riverfront next door to Convention Center

## TOTAL FEES

15. **Registration Fee from Line 10 or 11**

    = $___________

16. **Guest Meal Fees from Line 13and 14**

    = $___________

17. **Total Registration fees**

    = $___________

---

**IF YOU ARE USING THIS FORM TO REGISTER, PLEASE DON’T FORGET TO SIGN THE WAIVER ON PAGE 14**

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*September 2019 • Trail of Tears National Historic Trail News*
**Field Trip Waiver**  
Please sign this liability waiver if you plan to participate in the field trip.

The undersigned hereby agrees that neither the Trail of Tears Association (TOTA), its chapters, directors, officers, employees, and agents, nor to the extent legally permissible any private or public (state or federal or instrumentality of either), landowner or tenant or licensee in possession of any land or over which any tour, field trip, or outing takes place, or through which it travels, in connection with or as a part of any meeting or convention of TOTA shall have any responsibility or liability, in whole or in part for any loss, damage, injury to person or property, delays and delayed departure or arrival, missed carrier connections, cancellations, changes in schedules, program, or itinerary, or mechanical defect or failures, or for any negligent act or omissions of any nature whatsoever which results from, or arises out of, occurs at or during any activities, programs, tours, field trip, or outing thereof, or part of any of the foregoing. All persons registering at or attending any such meeting or convention shall be bound by the foregoing and deemed to have consented and agreed to the same by such registration or attendance.

Sign _______________________________ Date _______________________________

**Cancellation Policy**

A written and signed notice of cancellation must be submitted to the Trail of Tears Association, 412 N Hwy 100 Suite “B”, PO Box 329, Webbers Falls, OK 74470, in order to receive a refund. A 50% refund will be granted if notice is received by Sept 25th, 2019. NO refunds will be granted after Sept. 25, 2019.

**Make Check or Money Order Payable to:**
Trail of Tears Association

**Send to:** Trail of Tears Association  
PO Box 329  
Webbers Falls, Oklahoma 74470

**Hotel Information**

Holiday Inn Paducah Riverfront  
600 N. Fourth St.  
Paducah, KY 42001

**Call:** 270-366-7614 for reservations  
Ask for: Trail of Tears group rate or reference block code TTC  
Rooms are $89.00 plus tax (total $100.94)

**Room Block Closes Sept. 23rd, or when sold out.**

**Questions?**  
Contact Roy Barnes at nationaltota@gmail.com or (918-464-2258) or Troy Poteete at troywaynepoteete@gmail.com

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**ONLINE REGISTRATION**

![Scan QR Code OR Go To NATIONALTOTA.COM/#CONFERENCEINFO](Image)

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**24th Annual TRAIL OF TEARS Conference & Symposium 2019**

Holiday Inn Riverfront  |  Paducah, KY  |  October 11-13, 2019

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**Daniel Blake Smith**  
Writer & Filmmaker - An American Betrayal: Cherokee Patriots and the Trail of Tears

**Dr. Brad Lieb**  
Dir. of Chickasaw Archaeology and Field Studies, Chickasaw Homeland Office-Tupelo, MS

**Dixie Brewer**  
Chickasaw Storyteller
Some waited over a month before they could span the river structures with board floors to escape the cold, muddy ground. Crashed, preventing eight of the Cherokee detachments from any wooded hollow four miles to the Mississippi River. At the food, and forage for all. They crossed into Illinois in October and offer encouragement to continue the journey.

Detachments stopped supplies. Chief John Ross, in Cairo, Illinois, at the confluence of the Ohio and Mississippi, by the ice. There were eighty-two deaths in the detachment while on the road. Eighty-two died as a result of their forced migration.

AFTER CONFERENCE EVENT 1
Event #1 is at 10 a.m: Fort Defiance State Park in Cairo, Illinois, at the confluence of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers where Water Route Detachments stopped supplies. Chief John Ross, while traveling aboard the steamboat Victoria, left his detachment and traveled upriver on the Mississippi to meet with overland detachments to offer encouragement to continue the journey.

AFTER CONFERENCE EVENT 2
Event #2 is at 1 p.m: Hamburg Hill in the Shawnee Nation Forrest near Jonesboro, IL on the road to Hamburg Landing situated on the last set of uplands before reaching the Mississippi River floodplain. Here several Cherokee removal detachments waited for the Mississippi River to thaw before being able to cross on the ferries.
Georgia. Her father was Ti-kah-ni-yi-ski, known in English as “Big Ketcher.” Her mother, Sallie, was a white woman. On October 23, 1838 the Ketcher family left on the forced removal in the Moses Daniel detachment which disbanded in the west on March 2, 1839.

Rebecca was first married to an Old Settler Cherokee, John Smith. They were the parents of one daughter. After their separation, she married Bark Neugin and they were the parents of eight children. Rebecca Ketcher Neugin passed away on July 15, 1932 at her home in Lost City. There were approximately 200 in attendance at the memorial tribute where a bronze plaque had been placed on the headstone. Dignitaries in attendance were Curtis Rohr, President of the OK Chapter, Jack D. Baker, President TOTA, Troy Wayne Poteete, Executive Director TOTA, Rev. D. J. McCarter, Becky Hobbs, former Cherokee Chief Bill John Baker, and UKB Chief Joe Bunch.

The spring NCTOTA meeting took place on April 6th at the Western Carolina Regional Airport in Andrews, NC. Dr. Brett Riggs gave a presentation on the Welch Farm and post-removal Cherokee communities in Cherokee County. Following Dr. Riggs’ presentation, those in attendance had the opportunity to visit the Welch Farm property.

During the month of April, NCTOTA partnered with the Macon County Public Library to discuss the Trail of Tears as part of the Library’s “Walking with Spring” program. Dr. Andrew Denson, Lamar Marshall and Dr. Sue Abram participated on behalf of the Chapter.

On May 31st, Chapter members volunteered with Cherokee Choices to help set up for the 2019 Remember the Removal Ride Send-off Event. NCTOTA helped sponsor the dinner for the riders and their families and donated copies of the Butrick Journal.

This summer, Anita Finger-Smith and Paige Yelen hosted outreach booths at multiple events in western North Carolina and eastern Tennessee. Additionally, several members of the Chapter partnered on projects with the Nikwasi Initiative, a non-profit dedicated to preserving and interpreting the Nikwasi Mound in Franklin, NC.

The OK Chapter held a memorial tribute marking to honor Rebecca Ketcher Neugin, who is regarded as the last Cherokee survivor of the Trail of Tears. The marking ceremony was held June 8, 2019 at the Neugin Cemetery, Lost City, Cherokee Nation. This was the 157th memorial tribute marking that the chapter has accomplished.

Rebecca Ketcher, We-gi in the Cherokee language, was born about 1835 in the Hickory Log District of the Cherokee Nation East, probably in what is now Bartow County,
TENNESSEE

The Tennessee Trail of Tears has been working hard! In April we helped the Hiwassee River Heritage Center in Charleston, Tennessee to celebrate their new building and to open a portion of the National Historic Trail Experience. Charleston was the former location of Fort Cass during the forced Removal.

Red Clay State Park, the Hiwassee Heritage Center, Blythe Ferry Cherokee Memorial Removal Park and Woodbury, TN among other groups hosted the Remember the Removal Bike Riders on their journey through Tennessee.

Our June membership meeting was held in conjunction with the Great Tellico History Day in Tellico Plains, Tennessee. The event was well attended.

During the summer months TNTOTA participated in a number of community events to provide information to the public about the Trail of Tears. We met thousands of individuals at the Appalachia Homesteading Conference, Pigeon Forge Elementary School, the River Town Festival, and Red Clay Historic State Park’s Cherokee Cultural Days. We are looking forward to being at the International Cow Pea Festival in September.

In August, ten members of TNTOTA participated in a webinar with the National Park Service to learn about obtaining Trail of Tears’ signage. We are working hard on obtaining signage in Monroe, McMinn, Bradley, Hamilton, Rhea, Shelby and Van Buren Counties in Tennessee. On Saturday, November 23 Land Route signs will be dedicated to commemorate the Bell Detachment that came through Shelby county and Memphis in November of 1838. The markers will be located on the river in Memphis. Thanks to Graydon Swisher for working to obtain these signs.

Over 100 people attended a lecture given by TNTOTA Pres. Debbie Moore in Sparta, TN.

82 year old Shirley Lawrence outlast TN TOTA Dir. Faye Callaway and Pres. Debbie Moore at the Appalachia Homestead Conference.

We are looking forward to commemorative walks in Woodbury, TN on September 15 and in Winchester, TN on October 26. We are looking forward to seeing you in Paducah!

Great Tellico History Day (continued from pg 5)

Special guests were members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, the Cherokee Nation and the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians of Oklahoma Tribal Council members and Youth Conservation group.

A Trail of Tears Remembrance Walk was planned for that afternoon, walking from the Methodist Church to the Charles Hall Museum, where a ceremony was to be held with Cherokee music and prayers in the garden area behind the museum. Unfortunately, storms prevented the walk from occurring. The ceremony was still held following the end of the presentations.

“We were honored to join the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in the special Remembrance Ceremony held after the presentations behind the museum that overlooked their ancestral lands,” said Mathews.

Following the event, the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians of Oklahoma Tribal Council walked a private Remembrance Walk with some members of the Cherokee National Forest and some of their relatives, who had traveled from Oklahoma.

“Although the event’s Remembrance Walk was tainted by storms, we can all take pleasure in knowing the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians–Oklahoma were able to do their private Remembrance Walk,” said Mathews. “Our hope was that the true story of the Cherokee forced departures either by treaties when Monroe County was formed in 1819 and the Forced Removal known as the Trail of Tears be told.”

The walk was in memory of the 3,000 or more Cherokee, mostly from North Carolina, who traversed the Unicoi Turnpike Trail (Trading Path) from Fort Butler (Murphy, North Carolina), Fort Armistead (Coker Creek) and through Tellico Plains to the deportation station at Fort Cass (Charleston, Tennessee). The forced removal groups then traveled by land to present day Tahlequah, Oklahoma. These groups were in Tellico Plains on or around June 22, 1838.

According to Melissa Twaroski, with the U.S. Forest Service and the coordinator for the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail in the Southern Region, the private 5-mile Remembrance Walk began at Unicoi Gap around 5:30 p.m. and the group arrived at Fort Armistead in Coker Creek around 8 p.m. Everyone did the first section of the hike together, while others continued to complete the entire 5-mile journey.

“One of the youth crew leaders, Tree, walked the entire route with his grandmother, Sharon Benoit, who is on the UKB Tribal Council,” said Twaroski.

Once at Fort Armistead, Archaeologists Bass and Riggs led a tour.

“We stayed until 9:30 p.m. or so—when the resident whippoorwill began singing,” said Twaroski.

Vicki Coatney Smith shared the history of the Cherokee people at her booth during the Great Tellico History Day.

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“We stayed until 9:30 p.m. or so—when the resident whippoorwill began singing,” said Twaroski.
Chickasaw Singer and Dancer
Jason Burwell is a Chickasaw man passionate about his culture. For the past three years, he has worked in the Chickasaw Language Revitalization and Preservation department. Over the course of time, Indian people have lost much of their culture but Jason believes, if we are committed to our historical searches, opportunities are revealed to help us connect to yesterdays of long ago. He bridges this gap through his language, tribal songs, Choctaw hymns and listening to his elders.

“It’s an uphill climb preserving our culture but we, as Chickasaw people, don’t have to look far for our inspiration and strength. We look to our elders because they looked to theirs. Sacrifices were made a long time ago for our benefit today. I try to keep that truth close to me.”


Vision Becoming Reality
Using Partnerships to Develop the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail

In 1987, Congress acknowledged the significance of this tragic event in our Nation’s history by establishing the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail. The National Park Service administers the Trail in cooperation with federal, state, and local agencies; the Cherokee Nation and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians; interested groups; and private landowners.

The Trail of Tears Association and the National Park Service National Trails Intermountain Region, Santa Fe have been working with trail partners to increase visibility for the trail and to develop it for visitor use. Old traces, historic buildings, and other resources are being preserved. Many sites have been certified and numerous on-the-ground projects have been completed, such as route signing, visitor-use development, interpretive wayside exhibits, and interior museum exhibits at existing facilities.

Certified Sites
Andrew Ross House, AL
Arcadia Valley Campground, MO
Audubon Acres, TN
Berry’s Ferry and John Berry Homestead, KY
Big Spring, KY
Brainerd Mission Cemetery, TN
Browns Ferry Tavern, TN
Campground Cemetery, IL
Cedartown Cherokee Removal Camp, GA
Chattanooga Regional History Museum, TN
Cherokee County Historical Museum, NC
Cherokee Garden at Green Meadows, GA
Cherokee Heritage Center, OK
Chiefteats Museum/Major Ridge Home, GA
City of North Little Rock Riverfront Park, AR
Columbus-Belmont State Park, KY
Crabb-Abbot Farm, IL
Crider Tavern Complex, KY
David Crockett State Park Trail Segment, TN
Delta Cultural Center, AR
Fitzgerald Station and Farmstead, AR
Fort Gibson, OK
Fort Payne Cabin Site, AL
Funk Heritage Center, GA
Giles Co. Trail of Tears Interpretive Center, TN
Green County Trail Segments, MO
Golconda Riverfront, IL
Gray’s Inn, KY
Hair Conrad Cabin, TN
Hamburger Hill, IL
The Hermitage, TN
Historic Road from Ross to Ridge’s, GA
Hiwassee River Heritage Center, TN

James Brown Cherokee Plantation, TN
Jentel Farm Trail Segment, IL
John Martin House, TN
John Ross House, GA
Junaluska Memorial and Museum, NC
Lake Dardanelle State Park, AR
La Petite Roche, AR
Laughlin Park, MO
Mantle Rock, KY
Maramec Spring Park/Massey Iron Works, MO
McGinnis Cemetery Trail Segment, IL
Mount Nebo State Park, AR
Murrell Home, OK
Museum of the Cherokee Indian, NC
Museum of the Native American, AR
New Echota State Historic Site, GA
Paducah Waterfront, KY
Pettit Jean State Park, AR
Pinnacle Mountain State Park, AR
Port Royal State Park, TN
Radford Farm, KY
Red Clay State Historic Area, TN
Rockdale Plantation/George Adair Home, GA
Running Waters, John Ridge Home, GA
Sequoyah Birthplace Museum, TN
Snelson-Brinker Cabin, MO
Star City Ranch Trail Segment, MO
Tennessee River Museum, TN
Tolera Farm Trail Segment, IL
Trail of Tears Commemorative Park, KY
Trail of Tears State Park, MO
Trail of Tears State Forest, IL
Tusculum Landing, AL
Vann Cherokee Cabin, GA
Vann House Historic Site, GA
Village Creek State Park, AR
Wagner Farm Trail Segment, IL
Wayside Store and Bridges Tavern Site, IL
Waterloo Landing, AL
Willstown Mission Cemetery, AL

Federal Protection Components and Interpretive Sites
Arkansas River Visitors Center/Old Post Road Park, Russellville, AR
Arkansas Post National Memorial, AR
Cadron Settlement Park, AR
Cherokee Memorial Park, Blythe Ferry, TN
Fort Smith National Historic Site, AR
Great Smoky Mountains National Park, TN
Holla Bend Nat. Wildlife Refuge, Dardanelle, AR
Mark Twain National Forest, MO
Mocassin Bend, TN
Pea Ridge National Military Park, AR
Shawnee National Forest, MO
Stones River National Battlefield, TN

DIGITAL CONTENT AVAILABLE: CERTIFIED SITES WITH LINKS
SCAN QR CODE

TOTA State Chapter Presidents Contact Info

Alabama
Shannon Keith
Phone: 256-337-8024
Email: sfkeith72@gmail.com

Arkansas
Bethany Henry Rosenbaum
Phone: 417-592-2623
Email: bethany_henry@hotmail.com

Georgia
Tony Harris
Phone: 770-425-2411
Email: harris7627@bellsouth.com

Illinois
Sandy Boaz
Phone: 618-833-8216
Email: skboaz@yahoo.com

Kentucky
Alice Murphree
Phone: 270-886-5375
Email: amurphree1139@bellsouth.net

Missouri
Deloris Gray Wood
Phone: 573-729-2545
Email: lostgeneration@embarqmail.com

North Carolina
Paige Tester-Yelen
Phone: 828-269-8281
Email: paigentota@gmail.com

Oklahoma
Curtis Rohr
Phone: 918-341-4689
Email: clrfnr58@yahoo.com

Tennessee
Debbie Moore
Phone: 423-715-2254
Email: lostgeneration@embarqmail.com

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September 2019 • Trail of Tears National Historic Trail News
The Trail of Tears Association would like to thank the following for their generous upgraded membership support:

### Benefactors $1000+
- Cherokee Nation - $10,000
- Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians $7,200

### Sponsors $100 - $499 (Listed in alphabetical order)

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